

- (viii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (ix) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife animals reaches them.

[Translation]

Scholarships to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe Students

1623. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether present assistance of scholarship being provided to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students is inadequate;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount allocated by the Central Government to Rajasthan under pre-matric and post-matric scholarship schemes for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes students during the last three years;

(d) the amount spent by the Central Government for providing free education and scholarship to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students of the State during the year 1996-97;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide similar scholarships to the students of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) also; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). The maintenance allowance rates under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarships to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been increased by about 50% in case of professional and technical courses and by about 30% in case of non-technical and non-professional courses, with effect from 1.10.1995.

(c) Central assistance released to State Government of Rajasthan during last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is given below :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	348.02
1994-95	311.68
1995-96	665.40

There is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship, exclusively for Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes. However, Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in unclean occupation also covers eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students. The Central assistance released to State Government of Rajasthan during last three years under this Scheme is given below :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1993-94	30.087
1994-95	37.774
1995-96	63.82

(d) Central assistance of Rs. 934.75 lakhs has been released during 1996-97 to State Government of Rajasthan, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Further, two voluntary organisations in Rajasthan have been given grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,88,528/- during 1996-97 under the Central Scheme of Educational Complex in low literacy pockets for Scheduled Tribe girls and an another voluntary organisations has also been given grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,95,000/- towards maintenance of a non-residential school for Scheduled Castes in Rajasthan under the Scheme of Aid to Voluntary Organisations for Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

(e) and (f). There is no Centrally Sponsored Scholarship Scheme at present for students of Other Backward Classes.

Disposal of Environment Cases

1624. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-fixation of time limit for the disposal of Cases regarding non-compliance of environmental rules by industries, it takes years together to dispose them of;

(b) if so, whether these industries are violating the environmental rules due to long time taken in the legal proceedings;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take steps to overcome these problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). A time frame for complying with the prescribed standards was given to major polluting industries. A number of units have taken necessary pollution control measures to comply with the standards. In few genuine cases, where industries have initiated pollution control measures, the time limit was extended to enable them to complete the work.